

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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Red Mueller Dies; Once Headed OPC



Merrill Mueller

Merrill (Red) Mueller, one of the country's outstanding journalists in both print and broadcast, and a former president of OPC, died Nov. 30 in Santa Monica, Calif., at the age of 64. He had been retired since last year because of illness.

Mueller, a native of New York City, began his journalistic career at age 14 as a reporter for a Connecticut daily. He attended Springfield (Mass.) College, the Sorbonne and the University of London. He then joined *Newsweek* magazine, becoming London bureau chief. He was working also for International News Service in 1939 when he started broadcasting for NBC.

During his broadcasting career, Mueller covered practically every major event anywhere in the world — the Spanish civil war, World War 2, the Korean war, as well as U.S. politics and the space launchings from Cape Canaveral. He traveled with General Eisenhower, covering the war in Europe, and with General MacArthur, covering the war in the Pacific.

In 1950, Mueller started working for NBC in television, switching to ABC radio in 1968.

(Continued on page 2)

January 5 Champagne Party Greets '81 and New OPCers



A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Your Board of Governors extends the season's greetings and its warmest wishes for the new year to all members and their families.

— Henry Gellermann
President



Photo: Halsman

Bob Misch at Work

On View in Our Lounge :

Hope Herman Wurmfeld spent the past summer in France taking pictures. That's her work, photography. A lot of those pictures are on display for you to enjoy this month in the club lounge.

A native New Yorker, Wurmfeld has degrees from both Cornell and Columbia and is currently teaching in the art department at Hunter College. As a freelance, she has ranged from antique sculpture at the Fogg Museum for *Time* to actor-playwright Sam Shepard for Lincoln Center.

She has done several children's books, among them *Black is Beautiful* and *Feeling Mad, Bad, Sad, Glad*. Her photographs are in several private and museum collections, including the study collection at the Museum of Modern Art. Her documentation of the summer youth program of New York City's Parks Council was displayed at Union Carbide's gallery.

Holiday Closings

The Club will be closed Dec. 25 and 26 and Jan. 1 and 2 in observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The corks will pop pop. The champagne will bubble bubble. And OPCers, old and new, will gurgle gurgle.

All this will happen from 5:30 on Monday evening, Jan. 5, in the club's Bogert Room (main dining room) ... as everybody welcomes the New Year and the club welcomes its new (1980) members ... at a champagne tasting party that will make wine history.

OPC'er Robert Jay Misch, who is arranging the event, gives assurance of that. He should know. He is one of the world's acknowledged authorities in the pleasure areas of drinking, eating and entertaining.

"It is probably the first time in history," says Bob, "that four of the most prestigious bottlers of champagne are each offering the very top of their line, four great champagnes, for our tasting."

Arrangements for the champagne are being made by another OPC'er, Irving Smith Kogan, who heads the Champagne News and Information Bureau.

Tab for the party will be only \$5 per member ... with our new (1980) members enjoying the hospitality as guests of the club. Funds remaining after the party's breakage, etc., will be donated to the Silurians.

So reserve your cork now! Phone Mary Novick (212) 679-9650.

Does Reporting Affect Labor Talks?

It's probably fair to say that newspaper users — readers and advertisers — have no clear idea of the impact newspaper labor negotiations have on them. If the negotiations slide into a strike, readers are inconvenienced, advertisers lose money.

Nor do readers, advertisers and newspaper people themselves have any clear idea of the impact newspapers and the other media collectively have on labor negotiations. Does media coverage of collective bargaining help or hinder?

This is obviously an important question for everyone, for collective bargaining usually ends up with everyone having to pay more for whatever is being bargained about.

That's why a small book just published by the American Arbitration Association should be of general interest, but certainly of special interest to the media. It's titled *The Impact of the Media On Collective Bargaining*, and can be had from the association, 140 West 51 St., New York City 10020, for \$6.

Some observations and comments that emerge from the book are:

- Publishers and other media entrepreneurs resist labor reporting because they don't want labor problems in their own shops.

- Most labor reporters are untrained for the job. They are general reporters on assignment. They look for the exceptional, rather than the representative — the sensational rather than the



With the Jan. 5 champagne-tasting party ahead of us, OPCers will be well on their way to becoming wine connoisseurs. Here Dr. Lucio Caputo, Italian Trade Commissioner, explains Italian wines at an OPC tasting in November to OPCer William Hall Lander, himself something of a wine expert.

significant. There are only about 25 qualified labor reporters in the country. As a result, most media do not do as good a job as they should in covering collective bargaining.

- Most opinion is against sunshine laws because agreements are more easily worked out out of the spotlight.

- Journalism schools should help through training of student journalists in labor reporting.

New Group Studies Membership Status

Should the distinction between active and associate memberships be changed to "broaden the base and participation in the activities of the club by all members"?

The question has bounced around among members and at the board of governors during the past year. A committee consisting of Gloria Zukerman, Russ Tornabene and Harry Rand tendered some recommendations this year which were rejected by the board at its October meeting.

Seeking a final solution, President **Henry Gellermann** has named a broad committee to study the question. It includes **Donald Bryden, Henry Cassidy, Morton Frank, James Hanchett, Robert Kleiman, George Krinsky, Harry Rand, Dwight Sargent, Russ Tornabene** and **Gloria Zukerman**, with Gellermann ex-officio.

Letters

JOHANNESBURG — The Iran-Iraq war and the Iranian hostage muddle evacuated the Johannesburg offices of the American television networks. Correspondents, crews and producers from ABC, CBS and NBC were called into action.

Larry Pintak, an old African hand from Zimbabwe, now with CBS in Beirut, ran into another Salisbury habitue, Alan Pizzey, another new CBS addition as correspondent in Johannesburg. Mark Coogan of ABC went off to Iraq from South Africa and Peter Kent, the NBC man, also turned up to report on the war. The NBC crew found itself in London. The CBS crew turned up in Frankfurt for the hostage watch. Heather Allan, the prettiest producer in television, was in Jordan, ABC producer Keith Shaw was sent to Frankfurt.

In the meantime, South Africa was calm. Lucky for American TV. *Los Angeles Times* correspondent Jack Foisie recently played host at a Johannesburg dinner party for visiting board chairman Otis Chandler, who was taking some vacation time in Southern Africa to hunt big game.

Jon Kapstein, Africa bureau chief for *Business Week*, drove up to Zimbabwe for a look at the simmering unrest there. Other foreign reporters are now in the country to report on the troubles between tribal factions in the Black-majority government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Newsweek's Holger Jensen returned to Johannesburg after a brief visit to his home in Montana.

Carl Bernstein of *Washington Post* Watergate fame and now ABC bureau chief in Washington, visited South Africa to hand out journalism awards at a local press club.

The Foreign Correspondents' Association has managed to snag South African Prime Minister Pieter W. Botha as its guest for a formal dinner later this month.

The FCA, under chairman Bill Nicholson, *Associated Press* bureau chief in Johannesburg, is also busy planning its big December party. Cases of wine and beer are already on order but the big decision remains. Members have to decide whether they want to spit-roast several sheep or just one ox. Stay tuned. — **Bill Nicholson**

RED MUELLER

(Continued from page 1)

Mueller's distinction as a broadcast journalist was recognized when he was chosen pool reporter for radio news of the D-Day landings in Normandy, the Japanese surrender on the U.S.S. Missouri and John Glenn's space flight. He was wounded in Tunisia and received the Purple Heart. He also received the Order of the British Empire and was made a member of the French Legion of Honor. Over the years he won many awards for outstanding achievement in journalism.

Mueller is survived by his wife, Jane, and two sons, Kenneth and Kevin. They make their home in Culver City, Calif.

A memorial service was held Dec. 2 in Los Angeles. The family suggested that memorial tributes might be made to the American Cancer Society.

**Eat and Drink
With Us
at The Club**

Letters

NEW YORK — I was elated to see the OPC Bulletin's letter from **William Glenn** reporting that he had received 15 replies for the news job in Taiwan listed in our Placement column. I handle Placement and have often wondered if anybody pays any attention to it. Now I know that Placement can serve a good purpose. On the other hand, the proposed "Eyewitness" book is foundering for lack of interest. So how to figure the unpredictables?

—Helen Alpert

The matter of "reciprocity" with the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan seems to bug our president. He doesn't understand why they won't "honor" the OPC membership card. During a visit there recently, I explored the problem. It's quite minor.

The club's facilities in Tokyo are severely limited and frequently strained, since the club will not turn away a working correspondent. So the club requires that visiting press club members not on active assignment in Tokyo be sponsored by a local member.

For OPCers this should be easy. There are a number of OPCers in Tokyo. You have only to ask one of them to sponsor you and a guest card good for 29 days will be forthcoming. The card entitles you to buy the chits you need to pay for food or drink. Unspent chits are redeemable.

Enjoy! —Irvin S. Taubkin

New Applications

ACTIVE RESIDENT

Anthony J. Hughes, Editor, Africa Report
Sponsors: **Henry Gellermann**, **Harry Rand**
William Exton, Jr., author, self-employed
Sponsors: **Henry Gellermann**, **Irvin Taubkin**

New Members

ACTIVE RESIDENTS:

Louis Ehrenkrantz
Lansing Lamont
Edwina F. Snow

ACTIVE NON-RESIDENTS:

Jody Kolodzey
Martha L. Moffett

ASSOCIATE RESIDENTS:

Norman Acton
Peter P. Long
Robert E. O'Neill

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENTS:

Thomas W. Minehart
Helen Powers
Richard D. Wyllie

CHANGE OF STATUS

FROM ASSOCIATE RESIDENT
TO ACTIVE RESIDENT:

Morton Frank

Editors Tell Us What They Want

What do editors of national magazines and news services want these days? A survey by OPCer **Amelia Lobsenz** shows these major interests:

- The three big problems facing the country — the economy, national security and energy.

- The economy, energy, reindustrialization.

Other pressing interests cited: personal finance, health, medicine, food, home-entertaining, self-help.

A large lack of interest was found in travel features, "undoubtedly a by-product of the uncertain economy."

Editors appreciate "clarity, brevity and relevance." As **Sidney Goldberg**, executive editor of Independent News Alliance, put it, "The trend is toward excellence — in theme, writing, relevance."

... So Do Readers

Scissored from the Minnesota Press Club's Intermedia, notes on what women want to read these days, noted by Kate Rand Lloyd, editor-in-chief, Working Woman Magazine:

"Facts, not fluff. They want articles on management skills, financial and investment advice, time management, news on how the changing economy reflects on the status of women. Our readers want us to be believable and trustworthy. And they want only a little fashion and beauty. All I have to do is get a little heavy on the glamour and I get letters admonishing me: 'Come off it, Kate.' ... Our readers are our peers. That's a major change in the field. Traditionally, women's magazines have been edited in New York by editors who look down on their readers. They see themselves editing magazines for 'ninnies in the boonies.' That attitude won't work for us ... The United States government predicts that 57 million women could be working outside their homes for pay by 1985. Among those, our 'universe' — those women with a career commitment who might want our magazine — could reach eight to ten million ... Our magazine has changed with our readership. When we started publishing four years ago, one of our most successful articles dealt with how to write a resume. Now that article has to deal with four different kinds of resumes for women considering job changes ... and one resume is an application to the Harvard Business School."

HELP WANTED

The Bulletin sorely needs more correspondents abroad to tell us what's what with our members and also what's going on in the business of reporting the news from abroad. We also desperately need a volunteer photographer. Get in on the fun of producing the *Bulletin*. Write or phone us at the club office.

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Who, What, Where

By BLYTHE FOOTE FINKE

Keep the news coming to this, *your column*, and don't be bashful. You would be surprised how much your fellow members like to hear about your travels, your scoops, your bylines, your books, etc.

* * *

One of our OPC members, **Margaret Pennar**, a specialist on the Middle East, has been following area developments closely. Her freelance consulting work includes two radio series for the Broadcasting Foundation of America; one on the Egyptian cultural scene, and another on the Arab press. She also covers the United Nations in Arabic for VOA.

* * *

Congratulations to longtime OPC member **Margaret Parton**, who is recovering nicely at Columbia Presbyterian after surgery.

* * *

Jaime Isaac Reibel continues as Latin correspondent with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, but has also begun a bimonthly column entitled "Latin Letter" for them. Before leaving the country he delivered a slide lecture show November 24 at the Explorers Club in New York on the Saragureno Indians. He worked with them as a community developer from November 1977 to November 1979.

* * *

Ken Anderson has hit it big lately in the book market. Two of his 1980 books — *The Newsweek Encyclopedia of Family Health and Fitness* (Newsweek), and *The Urdang Dictionary of Medical Terms* (John Wiley & Sons, Inc.) — have been published in the past two months. He has four other book projects in the pipeline for 1981 and 1982.

* * *

Robert Sherrod's book *History of Marine Corps Aviation in World War Two* was published in early December. The new edition of the 1952 book includes a foreword by General Robert Barrow, the Marine Corps commandant. Sherrod is pleased he could correct some of the mistakes made in the first edition 28 years ago. He must also be pleased by reviews. *Foreign Affairs* calls it "an authoritative history." *The New York Times Book Review* describes it as a book "balanced and full of detail." *Saturday Review* sees it as "a memorial...an almanac of ready reference."

* * *

Gloria Zukerman, former co-chairperson of the club's Shop Talk committee, conducted her own little shop talk session at luncheon at the club Dec. 3. Participants were Ari Rath, Director & Editor of the *Jerusalem Post*, Israel's only English-language daily; **Robert Semple**, foreign editor of the *New York Times*; **George Krinsky**, deputy news editor, the AP; **Dwight Sargent**, national editorial writer, the *Hearst Newspapers*; and **Floyd Abrams**, a leading First Amendment attorney.

* * *

What appeared to be another little private shop talk, this time on Ireland, took place Dec. 1 in the club lounge and then in the dining room, participants being Turner Catledge, retired executive editor of the *New York Times*; **Connolly Cole**, promotions director here of Ireland's Industrial Development Authority; **Nathan W. Goldstein** and **Irvin S. Taubkin**, also former *New York Times* persons.

* * *

OPC'er **Barney Cameron**, who started his newspaper career at the age of six selling newspapers on the streets of Portland, Oregon, has been inducted into the Newspaperboy Hall of Fame by the International Circulation Managers Association. Barney was for years circulation director of the *New York Herald Tribune* and retired not long ago as president and business manager of the *Pittsburgh (Pa.) Press*.

* * *

OPC'er **A. John Adams** and Ernest Wittenberg, both heads of PR firms in Washington, have merged to form Adams & Wittenberg, with Wittenberg chairman and Adams president. They will have a New York office, opened last year by Adams.

* * *

The Wall Street Journal recently front-paged a story by Daniel Machalaba on our own **Patrick J. Doyle**, who has been called "the world's greatest police reporter." In his 35 years as police reporter for the *New York News*, Pat says he has covered "20,000 murders, suicides, fatal accidents and other violent deaths." What bothers Pat these days is that, despite record numbers of homicides, six times more than when he went to work for *The News* in 1945, editors are giving less and less space to them. Reasons: TV is more graphic than print; and editors say they want more depth stories of the causes of crime rather than details of individual crimes.

* * *

Filmmaker **Erwin Leiser**, who, as a member of the OPC Executive Committee, has responsibility for Europe, has conceived and directed "The World of Fernando Botero." It explores the work of this unique, contemporary Columbian artist. Leiser began shooting the film in New York in November 1975 at a Botero exhibition.

* * *

What some are calling "the industrial equivalent of war" with Japan in the electronic and video hardware fields is the subject of a fact-filled piece by Los Angeles OPC'er **Syd Cassyd** in a recent *ADWEEK-West*. It makes one think.

* * *

Munich-based **Aaron Einfrank** has articles on the Third World and the Netherlands in the 1980 edition of the *Encyclopedia Americana Yearbook*.

* * *

OPC'er **Temple Fielding's** "Europe 1981" was recently published by William Morrow & Co., along with "Fielding's Caribbean," which this year had Margaret Zellers as its author.

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
52 East 41st Street
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FIRST CLASS

